

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 and 37-47 are presently pending. Claims 26-36 have been canceled, and claims 1 and 13 have been amended. Claims 37-47 have been added in this response.

The Examiner has objected to claim 29 for allegedly having informalities. Without conceding to or commenting on the merits of the objection, applicant has canceled claim 29. Accordingly, the objection to claim 29 is now moot.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chin. Without conceding to or commenting on the merits of the rejection, applicant has canceled claims 26-36 without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuation, continuation-in-part, or other application. Thus, the Section 102 rejection of claims 26-36 are now moot, and the following remarks address the rejections of claims 1-25.

Applicant's technique is directed toward a method for translating instant messages between two or more users over a network. Each user first establishes a user profile indicating a preferred language for viewing the instant messages. Then, when the user composes a message that is not in the preferred viewing language of the other user, then the composed message is translated according to the other user's preference before the message is transmitted via the network. Thus, applicant's technique enables users who speak different languages to communicate via instant messages using their own preferred viewing languages.

Chin discloses an electronic language translation server. The electronic language translation server can translate a source message into any designated languages and transmit the translated message to a desired destination. A user can view the translated message with or without the source message.

Chin cannot support a Section 102 rejection of claims 1-25, because Chin fails to disclose or suggest several features of the pending claims. For example, Chin fails to teach or suggest "establishing a user profile indicating at least one user language and one or more translation preferences of the one or more users" of claims 1-12. Instead, Chin discloses viewing and editing user profiles for chat room communications. Chin's user profile can include gender, location, age, occupation, fluent languages, country of origin, and personal message. Such a profile relates to personal information and does not indicate at least one user language and one or more translation preferences.

Further, Chin fails to teach or suggest "translating the message from the user language to at least one different language corresponding to the one or more translation preferences at the two or more devices" of claims 1-12 and "a content translation module located in the at least one source device having instructions for translating the message into a destination language" of claims 13-25. Instead, Chin's translation server acts as an intermediary between the source devices. Thus, Chin's source device sends the source messages in each user's own language to the translation server for conversion into another language for the destination device. Accordingly, Chin does not teach or suggest translating the source message before forwarding the message to the network. Moreover, the pending claims contain a combination of features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by Chin.

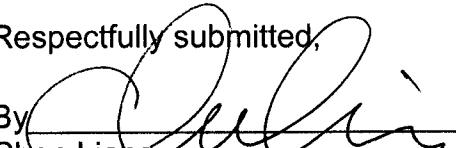
Newly added claims 37-46 recite features that are neither taught nor suggested by Chin. For example, Chin fails to teach or suggest "exchanging the designation information with the second device by sending the first preferred language to and receiving a second preferred language from the second device," "receiving a first message as input composed by the first user in the first preferred language," and "translating the received first message in the first preferred language into a second message in the second preferred language in the first device" of claim 37-46. Chin also fails to teach or suggest "a translation module operatively coupled to the instant messaging application that translates the instant

message input data into a second human-readable language, the second human-readable language being different from the first human-readable language" of claim 47.

Based upon these amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned representative at (206) 359-6038.

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Respectfully submitted,

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